

ABSTRACT

A system for storing data on a printed sheet employs a processor to divide data into a series of words, each containing a predetermined number of bits. The processor assigns a color for each word of data from a predetermined set of unique colors based on the value of the word. A color printer is used to print a series of regions on a sheet in a two-dimensional pattern corresponding to the colors selected for each word of data. The resulting printed sheet(s) can be read by a color scanner to retrieve the stored data. A processor associated with the scanner determines the color of each region on the sheet and generates a word of data from each region based on its color.